

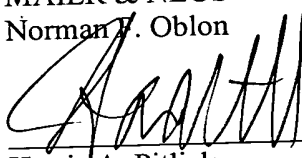
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully call the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) **submitted herewith**. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the Form PTO 1449 submitted therewith, and include a copy thereof with the next Office communication.

This application is now ripe for examination on the merits. An early examination is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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